

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 7, 8, 10-12, and 14-30 are pending.

Claims 7, 16, 18-20, and 27-30 are objected to because of informalities. These claims are amended to address the informalities objected to by the Examiner.

The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a) for failing to show the “multiple scattering elements” in claim 3. Fig. 2 and accompanying text are amended to show multiple scattering elements 234. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection to the drawings.

Claims 1, 3, 7-12, 14-16, 18-20, 23, and 27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ferrara, U.S. Patent 6,183,104. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 1 and 27 are amended to include the limitations of claim 9, and now recite “an elongate housing comprising a hollow enclosure with at least one opening, wherein said elongate housing is at least partially translucent and is a single piece of material having one or more cavities to receive said light sources. . . .” Applicants respectfully submit that Ferrara does not teach a device with a hollow enclosure in a single piece of material. Ferrara’s Fig. 3 clearly shows that none of the elements that form Ferrara’s device is a single piece of material with a hollow enclosure; rather, the space housing Ferrara’s light sources 24a is formed by snapping two pieces of material, cover 22 and base member 21, together. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Ferrara does not teach all the elements of claims 1 and 27 and these claims are therefore allowable over Ferrara.

Claims 3, 7-12, 14-16, 18-20, and 23 depend from claim 1 and are therefore allowable over Ferrara for at least the same reason as claim 1. Claims 28-30 depend from claim 27 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reason as claim 27.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 17, 21, 22, and 24-26 are allowable.

In view of the above arguments, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all pending claims. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (408) 382-0480.

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Respectfully submitted,



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